

## The *EQB Monitor*

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**Publication Schedule:** Mondays at 8:00 AM  
**Submission Deadline:** [View 2018 Schedule](#)  
Use the [EQB Monitor Submission Form](#)

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### In this publication:

- [Environmental Assessment Worksheets](#)
- [Environmental Impact Statement Need Decisions](#)
- [Alternative Urban Areawide Review Updates](#)
- [Notices](#)

The *EQB Monitor* is a weekly publication announcing environmental review documents, public comment periods and other actions of the Environmental Quality Board. For more information on environmental review, please visit the [EQB website](#).

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Check the [EQB Calendar](#) for more details on *Monitor* deadlines and Board Meetings. Meeting minutes, agendas and additional notices are also posted on the [EQB Website](#).



## Environmental Assessment Worksheets

### Project Title: John Perschbacher Hog Farm – Conger

**Comment Deadline:** October 10, 2018

**Project Description:** John Perschbacher proposes to expand his existing hog finishing feedlot from 720 animal units (AU) (2,400 swine) to 1,500 AUs (5,000 swine) in Section 12, Alden Township, Freeborn County with the installation of one total confinement barn. A copy of the Notice of Availability and the EAW can be found on the MPCA website at the following address: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/eaw> The MPCA is holding a public informational meeting to provide a brief overview of the project along with environmental review and permitting review and comment procedures. The MPCA's public informational meeting will be on September 25, 2018 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Alden City Hall, 174 North Broadway Avenue, Alden MN 56009.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**RGU Contact Person:**

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## Environmental Impact Statement Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the following project does not require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the Environmental Assessment Worksheet notice was published in the EQB Monitor.

- City of Duluth, Pastoret Terrace Building Potential Demolition Project, 8-28-18 (7-9-18)
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# Alternative Urban Areawide Review Updates

## Project Title: NorthPark Business Center AUAR Update

**Comment Deadline:** September 24, 2018

**Project Description:** The NorthPark Business Center Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) study area is approximately 227 acres located south of 109th Avenue N between Highway 169 and Winnetka Avenue N in Brooklyn Park. The City of Brooklyn Park adopted the NorthPark Businesses Center Final AUAR and Mitigation Plan on May 6, 2013. Since that time, some development within the study area occurred. The Update includes two additional development scenarios that increase the amount of industrial/office/warehouse/fulfillment center space. The Update can be found on the City's website at [www.brooklynpark.org/NorthParkAUAR](http://www.brooklynpark.org/NorthParkAUAR)

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** City of Brooklyn Park

**RGU Contact Person:**

Todd Larson  
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## Notices

On August 24, 2018, the EQB received a request from the Responsible Governmental Unit, (the Department of Natural Resources) to publish the record of decision on their denial of two (2) requests for a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on the NorthMet Mining Project

### **Notice of Denial of Requests for a Supplemental EIS on the NorthMet Mining Project**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and U.S. Forest Service received two requests for a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Supplemental EIS) for the NorthMet Mining Project: - Request from the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, Center for Biological Diversity, and Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness, received June 11, 2018. - Request from WaterLegacy, received July 19, 2018. After careful consideration of these requests and their supporting information, the DNR has determined that a Supplemental EIS is not warranted under the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act.

The DNR's response letters to the requestors, along with the requests and supporting information submitted by the requestors, are available on the DNR's environmental review webpage for the NorthMet Mining Project: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/polymet/index.html>

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** MN Department of Natural Resources

**RGU Contact Person:**

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## Rotenone Application Project Planned By Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Section Of Wildlife

The DNR Section of Wildlife Management is planning a rotenone treatment on the shallow lake, wetlands, streams listed below:

| Lake/Stream   | DOW#     | Township          | Range          | Sections(s)                           |
|---|----------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Freeborn Lake and tributary ponds                             | 24004400 | 104 N.;<br>103 N. | 23 W.          | 34,35;<br>2,3,10,11,13-15, 23 &<br>24 |
| Pederson Marsh  | 24005500 | 103 N.            | 23 W.          | 36                                    |
| Bryson Marsh (Main Bay) and tributary ponds                   | 24008001 | 103 N.            | 23 W.          | 36                                    |
| Bryson Marsh (Middle Bay)                                     | 24008002 | 102 N.<br>103 N.  | 23 W.<br>23 W. | 1<br>36                               |
| Bryson Marsh (Northeast Bay)                                  | 24008003 | 103 N.            | 23 W.          | 36                                    |
| Cobb River above Freeborn County Hwy. 6                       |          | 103 N.            | 23 W.          | 3                                     |
| Cobb River and tributary ditches and pond above Freeborn Lake |          | 103 N.            | 23 W.<br>22 W. | 24, 25 & 36<br>30                     |

The project involves the application of liquid rotenone, a federally and state registered pesticide, to eliminate the existing undesirable fish community in Freeborn Lake and tributary streams and wetlands. The treatment is planned to be conducted sometime in November of 2018, dependent on weather conditions and lake levels. Endangered or threatened species are not present in the lake or tributaries. The Freeborn Lake basin will be lowered by about 3.0 feet below the run out elevation prior to the application to reduce the amount of chemical needed to approximately one-seventh. Lower water levels will also prevent downstream movement of rotenone. Project goals are to improve water quality and aquatic habitat.

Rotenone application will be done aerially and by application to the water using a drip stations and ground based spray applications by licensed pesticide applicators. Target treatment concentration is 4.0 ppm. Common carp, black bullhead, fathead minnow, and green sunfish are the target fish species. Benefits of the project will be an improvement in water quality, increase in desirable game and pan fish, improved wildlife uses, and an increase in the abundance of submerged aquatic vegetation. The lake will be restocked with northern pike and yellow perch in spring after the waters have detoxified. For general information about this project, contact Jeanine Vorland - Area Wildlife Manager (507-668-7071) or Steve Kittelson - Shallow Lake Specialist (507-642-8478).

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Section of Wildlife

**RGU Contact Person:**

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 Madelia, MN 56062  
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## Notice of Public Information Meeting and Draft Site Permit Availability - Lake Benton II Wind Repowering Project

**Date:** September 27, 2018 **Time:** 6:00 PM **Location:** Pipestone County Emergency Services Building, 811 5th St. SE, Pipestone, MN 56164

On May 3, 2018 Lake Benton Power Partners II, LLC (Applicant) submitted a site permit amendment application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to construct and operate a 100.2 megawatt (MW) large wind energy conversion system (LWECS) at the site of the existing Lake Benton II wind facility in Pipestone County.

On August 22, 2018, The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) accepted the site permit amendment application as substantially complete, ordered the application to be processed as a repowering permit amendment, and issued an amended draft site permit for the project. A draft permit does not allow for construction to commence and the Commission may change a permit before final issuance or deny it. A final decision is expected in the first quarter of 2019. The Commission will hold a public meeting regarding the project giving the public the opportunity to provide comments and ask questions of staff from the Commission, the Department of Commerce, and the applicant.

The Lake Benton Wind II site is located southwest of the city of Ruthton and north of the city of Holland, Minnesota. The proposed site permit amendment requests authorization to remove and decommission the existing 137 wind turbines and construct and install 44 larger wind turbines at different locations within the existing project footprint. The existing project was issued a permit by the Environmental Quality Board on May 21, 1998. The repowering project proposal includes 48 proposed turbine locations (44 turbines, including 4 alternative turbine locations) of two types of turbines: 39 GE 2.3 MW wind turbines and 5 GE 2.1 MW wind turbines for a total project capacity of 100.2 MW.

Lake Benton II, LLC is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC (NEER). The Applicant will develop and construct the proposed repowered Lake Benton II Project, which is a build and transfer project. The Site Permit will be transferred to Northern States Power Company (NSP) on the commercial operation date. The Public Comment Period for the project will remain open until Monday, October 22, 2018 at 4:30 PM, with reply comments due by 4:30 PM on Monday, November 5, 2018.

Visit <https://mn.gov/puc/>, select Speak Up!, find this docket, and add your comments to the discussion or by email at [publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us). You can see all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website - [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc/), select "Search eDockets," enter the year (18) and the docket number (179), select "Search."

For questions about this docket or Commission process and procedure, contact Commission staff analyst Cezar Panait, at [Cezar.Panait@state.mn.us](mailto:Cezar.Panait@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2207 or the public advisor Charley Bruce, at [publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2251. 2

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

**RGU Contact Person:**

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## **Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection September 13 Meeting**

The Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection will meet at Rum River Library, 4201 6th Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303 Thursday, September 13, 2018, 10:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. \*Please note the later time; the library opens at 10 a.m.\* For more information on this meeting, please see the meeting packet on the EQB website (<https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/913-gcpp-packet>).

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